



ÉCOLE SEAFORTH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

DONATION REQUEST

Historically the funds raised through parent donations have gone to the classrooms to be used by teachers to support our children's education. This year we're going to try something different. At the June AGM parents voted to have the PAC give the classrooms \$12 per child and to have parent donations instead go toward a significant capital expenditure, to be voted on each year at the AGM. The logic behind this decision is that people prefer to donate to purchase something tangible so they can "see their dollars at work," rather than the more nebulous "support your children's education" of giving money to the classrooms.

This year the PAC has voted to solicit parent donations to replace the computers in the computer lab. The technology committee has recommended that we purchase lease-return PCs and monitors for the computer lab. These computers are a year or two old and more than sufficient to meet the needs of our students for many years to come. At a cost of just over \$420 each, including tax and shipping, **we hope to raise \$12,500 in parent donations during the September donation campaign to upgrade the computer lab.**

If you would like to help upgrade the computer lab, please complete the attached form and return it with your cheque to your child's classroom. If you fill out the form completely and make your cheque out to **École Seaforth Elementary School** (not Seaforth PAC), the district will issue a tax receipt for donations over \$20.

Thank you so much for your kind generosity!

École Seaforth Elementary School PAC Donation Program

Name to appear on Donation Receipt: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone number: _____ Email Address: _____

I would like to make a donation in the amount of:

\$30 _____ ☐ Cheque enclosed

\$60 _____ ☐ Cash Enclosed

\$100 _____

\$250 _____

Other amount \$ _____

To receive a tax receipt, please make cheques payable to **École Seaforth Elementary School**.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

As you know, we ended the 2011–2012 school with a significant surplus, much of which will be used to purchase 30 iPads to be used for research, literacy programs, presentations and a number of creative and academic purposes. Details on the technology plan and how the surplus will be spent are outlined in the attached page.

Surplus Funds

One of the most important agenda items for the June AGM was voting on how to spend the PAC's surplus funds. We had a significant surplus that carried over from the 2010–2011 year with additional funds left over from 2011–2012. We agreed at the June 2011 AGM to spend the funds on either technology or playground upgrades, but to delay a decision until we had completed a comprehensive evaluation of the school's needs and established a long-term plan. Unfortunately, despite repeated requests nobody stepped forward for a playground committee, so the playground evaluation did not happen. We had expected to complete the technology evaluation in the fall, but for a number of reasons the District did not complete their upgrades and subsequent technology inventory until spring 2012.

The technology committee met in May 2012 to review District documentation and recommendations and created a three-year technology upgrade plan:

- Year 1 – Purchase 30 iPads to be used for research, literacy programs, presentations and a number of creative and academic purposes
- Year 2 – Install a Brightlinks projector and whiteboard in the library to be used in conjunction with the iPads to create a large screen display of material from the iPads
- Year 3 – Upgrade the computer lab

There was a great deal of debate at the June AGM over whether we should first purchase the iPads or upgrade the computer lab. In the end we agreed to purchase the iPads for two main reasons. One, because the technology committee had identified the iPads as a top priority and thought the computer lab upgrade could wait until year three. Two, because we know the iPads will be delivered and put into circulation quickly, whereas upgrading the computer lab will take a bit longer since the computers need to be ordered and installed. Parents who have participated in fundraising for the last couple of years want to see the benefit of those efforts while their children are still at Seaforth.

Due to the substantial surplus the PAC was able to fund both year 1 and year 2 purchases, and the computer lab will be upgraded this year as well! At the June AGM the PAC voted to spend the surplus as outlined below, and agreed that any excess surplus go back to the PAC coffers so that we have more flexibility during the year, should we identify new funding initiatives.

iPad 3 – 16GB	30	\$14,940
Recycling fee	30	\$36
Ekto2 cases for iPad	30	\$960
iVisor for iPad	30	600
Bretford Mobility Cart		\$2,000
Media Cart		\$1,193
Brightlinks Projector		\$1,835
Brightlinks Installation		\$2,000
Whiteboard		\$488
Tax and shipping		~\$3,011
Classroom funding	500 x \$12	\$6,000
Quebec trip supplement	(replacing District grant)	\$621
Teacher wish list		\$4,000
Total		\$37,684

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rhylin Bailie at chair@seaforthpac.net.